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LETTER DATED 26 FEBRUARY 1996 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ITALY TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On behalf of the European Union I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a declaration of the Presidency of the European Union on the shooting down of two civilian aircraft by the Cuban authorities, issued today.

I would be grateful if you could have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Lorenzo FERRARIN
Deputy Permanent Representative
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex

[Original: English and French]

Declaration by the European Union on the shooting down of two civilian aircraft by the Cuban authorities

Rome, 26 February 1996 - The European Union strongly condemns the shooting down of two civilian aircraft on Saturday by the Cuban air force. It regrets the deaths of the four people on board the aircraft and calls for moderation and restraint from all involved in the handling of this incident.

The European Union requests that an immediate investigation be carried out in order to ascertain the details and responsibilities in this case.

Irrespective of the circumstances of the incident, there can be no excuse for not respecting international law and human rights norms.